

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 23 through 28 with the following amended paragraph:

These objects are achieved, and also other objects which, although they are not mentioned directly, they can be derived as obvious from the context discussed herein, or inevitably result from these, using the carbonic acid diesters described in claim 1. Expedient modifications of these inventive carbonic acid diesters and also carbonic acid diesters which are long-lasting and usable in methods for producing conjugates are claimed in the subclaims 2-19 which refer back to claim 1.

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 30 through 31 with the following amended paragraph:

With respect to a method for producing carbonic acid diesters, claims 20-24 provide a solution of the underlying object.

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 1 through 2 with the following amended paragraph:

~~Claims 25-30 describe~~ [[m]]Methods for producing polysaccharide-active substance conjugates and the pharmaceutical active substances obtainable by these methods are also described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 27 through 30 and page 11, lines 1 through 2 with the following amended paragraph:

According to a particular aspect of the present invention, the reaction takes place at a low base activity. The low base activity can be measured by adding the reaction mixture in a 10-fold excess. Here, the water, before addition, has a [[p11]] pH of 7.0 at 25°C, with the water comprising essentially no buffer. By measuring the pH at 25°C after addition of the reaction mixture, the base activity of the reaction mixture is obtained. Preferably, this mixture, after addition, has a pH of at most 9.0, particularly preferably at most 8.0, and particularly preferably at most 7.5.